

County Commission Makes Final Courthouse Decision

Architectural Drawing Shows New Courthouse Location

The Wasatch County Commission issues the following statements to clarify any misunderstandings on the location of the new Wasatch County Courthouse which may have arisen through recent articles published by groups from outside the County.

THE PRESENT AND preceding Wasatch County Commissions discussed for several months with the Heber City Council the advisability of Heber City purchasing an alternate building site on Main St. on which to build a courthouse. This site would be given to Wasatch County in exchange for the present site and allow expansion of the Heber City park. Prices and appraisals were obtained on several tracts of land. On January 18th the Wasatch County Commission requested by letter a decision from Heber City on this matter so that construction on the new Courthouse could be started. Due to the prohibitive cost of a suitable alternate site Heber City advised they were not interested in this proposition.

THE DECISION OF THE Wasatch County Commission

house would be ample to provide baseball facilities, picnic shelters, barbecue areas, and other recreational items for the people of our County. The present City Park is neither large enough or the correct location for this type of facility

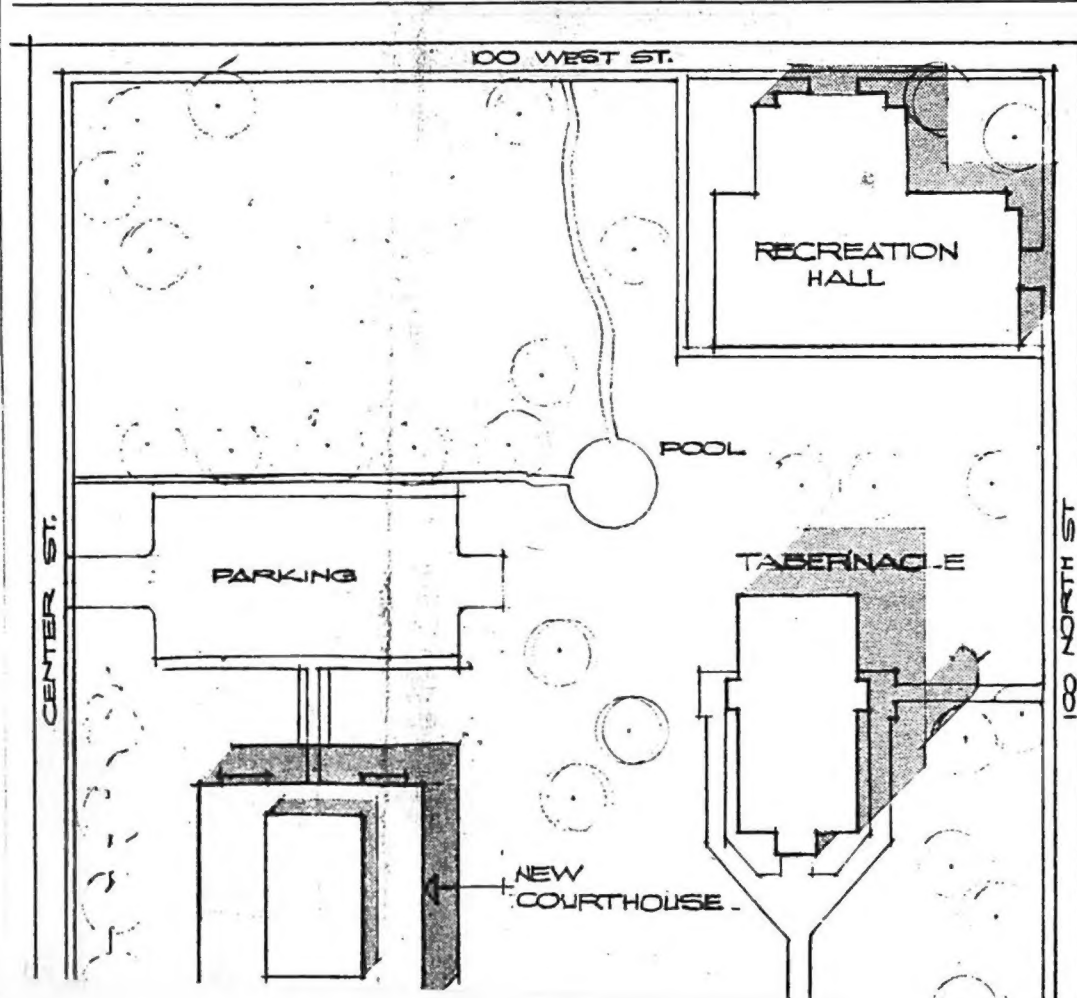
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THE DECISION OF THE Wasatch County Commission was then to locate the new Courthouse on the existing site. In February 1967 a questionnaire was sent out to each Wasatch County taxpayer asking if they would support the Commission on this decision. Over 60% of the taxpayers responded with a three to one majority supporting this proposition. Since that date this property has not been offered by the County for sale or trade to anyone and plans have been proceeding for the construction of our Courthouse on this site.

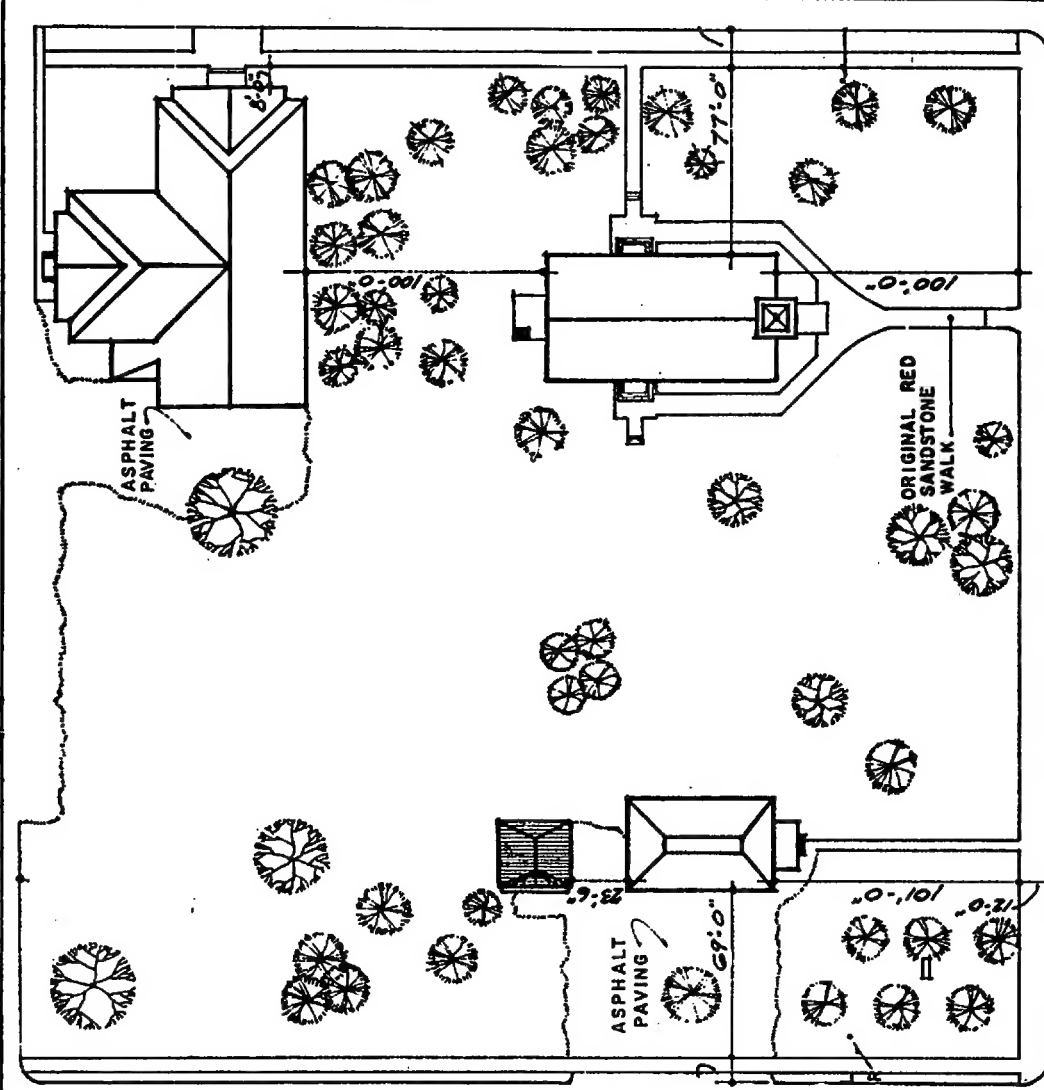
SINCE THAT TIME, EVEN though the property has not been available, many plans have been published by outside groups for the using of this property. The plans have been changed several times, some showing the Courthouse and Jail removed, some showing the Jail standing, and some showing all buildings remaining. The object in each case has been to appeal to certain groups of individuals and to discredit the plans of the Wasatch County Commission and force a delay in building plans to accomplish the ultimate goal — the preservation of the Town Square with buildings intact. Letters from our congressmen in Washington and from officials and individuals in Salt Lake have requested the preservation of the Town Square — not the using of this property for a park. Viewed rationally it would appear very unlikely that these individuals would be concerned with the addition of one acre of land to our City Park. This is a local problem which we do not feel is the concern of these outside groups.

THE RESTORATION OF THE buildings on this square to a point where they would be a credit to the community would require the expenditure of many thousands of dollars and then the problems of future maintenance would have to be met. It is easy to dream and plan a project this nature if the realities of financing are not faced. No mention of funds have been made indicating that they would have to come from the taxpayers of the County. We do not feel that this expenditure could even be considered:

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Thursday, September 7, 1967



MAIN STREET
Site plan of historic Heber Town Square

OUR ARCHITECT HAS pictured the block as it will appear when the Courthouse is completed. It will be noted that the new Courthouse and parking area will occupy the same areas as is now used by the Courthouse and Jail. Park area will remain about the same and nearly all of the existing trees will be retained. It would appear that if there is a critical need for additional park space for the type of park needed at this location that the removal of either or both the old tennis courts and the Social Hall could satisfy this need without the expenditure of additional funds.

THE FUNDS WHICH would be required to purchase a suitable alternate site for a Court-